

## CLAIMS

1 A punch card device including a punch, a die adapted to support a machine processable record card while it is being punched, and a light source mounted below the plane of said card in a position to direct light through the aperture made in said card by said punch.

2 A punch-card device according to claim 1 wherein said light source includes an electric light bulb and a mirror.

3 A punch card device according to claim 1 wherein said light source includes two electric light bulbs.

4 A punch card device according to claim 1 wherein said light source includes an electric light bulb partially surrounded by a reflector.

5 A punch card device according to claim 1 wherein said light source includes an electric light bulb having an overall length greater than three times its maximum diameter.

6 A punch card device according to claim 1 wherein said light source is illuminated by the operation of a limit switch closed by the full insertion of said card into said device.

7 A punch card device according to claim 1 wherein the upper surface of said die is made of a material that is pervious to light.

8 A punch card device according to claim 1 wherein the upper surface of said die is supported on ribs made of a transparent material.

9 A punch card device according to claim 1 wherein at least one transparent pane is interposed between said light source and chads punched out of said card.

1 10. A punch-card device according to claim 1 wherein light from said light source  
2 is made visible to the user of said device, to indicate to said user that the light source is  
3 energized.

4 11. A punch-card device according to claim 1 wherein an open space is provided  
5 below said die, said space having at least as great a width and length as said die, and a  
6 depth at least as great as the vertical height of said light source.

7 12. A punch card device according to claim 1 wherein said punch is in the form of  
8 a stylus with (a) a handle and (b) a slender probe, preferably of metal and having a  
9 diameter smaller than the minimum width of preperforated areas to be punched out of  
10 said card, the free end of said probe being slightly rounded to prevent binding during the  
11 punching operation.

12 13. A punch card device according to claim 1 wherein said light source includes  
13 one electric light bulb and one mirror spaced apart by more than the width of said die.

14 14. A punch-card device according to claim 1 wherein instructions to the user  
15 regarding the proper method for inserting said card and manipulating the punch are  
16 visible to said user during the punching operation.

17 15. A punch card device according to claim 1 wherein said card has a plurality of  
18 preperforated areas.

19 16. A punch-card device according to claim 1 wherein said card has a plurality of  
20 preperforated areas arranged in a plurality of rows and a plurality of columns.

21 17. A punch-card device according to claim 1 wherein said card has a plurality of  
22 preperforated areas arranged in a plurality of rows and a plurality of columns, and said

1 device has a plurality of leaves turnably mounted on co planar parallel axes spaced apart  
2 by multiples of the distance between adjacent columns of said preperforated areas.

3 18. A punch-card device according to claim 1 wherein said card has a plurality of  
4 preperforated areas arranged in a plurality of rows and a plurality of columns, and said  
5 device has a plurality of leaves turnably mounted on co planar parallel axes spaced apart  
6 by multiples of the distance between adjacent columns of said preperforated areas, said  
7 leaves each having an edge adjacent to a different column of said preperforated areas and  
8 exhibiting a plurality of legible choices each aligned with a different one of said rows.

9 19. A punch-card device according to claim 1 wherein said card has a plurality of  
10 preperforated areas arranged in a plurality of rows and a plurality of columns, and said  
11 device has a plurality of leaves turnably mounted on co-planar parallel axes spaced apart  
12 by multiples of the distance between adjacent columns of said preperforated areas, said  
13 leaves each having an edge adjacent to a different column of said preperforated areas and  
14 exhibiting a plurality of legible choices each aligned with a different one of said rows.  
15 said device also having (a) an opaque outer template mounted immediately underneath  
16 the plane of said axes and having an aperture adjacent to each of said choices, and (b) a  
17 transparent inner template immediately underneath said outer template and having an  
18 aperture in register with each preperforated area of said card when said card has been  
19 inserted into said device sufficiently to bear against a flange fixed to the lower end of said  
20 inner template.

21 20. A punch-card device according to claim 1 wherein said card has a plurality of  
22 preperforated areas arranged in a plurality of rows and a plurality of columns, and said  
23 device has a plurality of leaves turnably mounted on co planar parallel axes spaced apart

1 by multiples of the distance between adjacent columns of said preperforated areas, said  
2 leaves each having an edge adjacent to a different column of said preperforated areas and  
3 exhibiting a plurality of legible choices each aligned with a different one of said rows,  
4 said device also having (a) an opaque outer template mounted immediately underneath  
5 the plane of said axes and having an aperture adjacent to each of said choices, and (b) a  
6 transparent inner template immediately underneath said outer template and having an  
7 aperture in register with each preperforated area of said card when said card has been  
8 inserted into said device sufficiently to bear against a flange fixed to the lower end of said  
9 inner template, said card shifting said inner template to a position of register of the  
10 apertures in said inner and said outer templates against the urging of a light spring  
11 bearing against said flange.

12 21. A punch-card device according to claim 1 wherein the upper surface of said  
13 die is made of a resilient material and has slits adapted to permit said punch to detach  
14 preperforated areas from said card and force them into the open space beneath said die.

15 22. A punch-card device according to claim 1 wherein said punch is in the form of  
16 a stylus with (a) a handle and (b) a slender probe, preferably of metal and have a diameter  
17 smaller than the minimum width of preperforated areas to be punched out of said card,  
18 the free end of said probe being slightly rounded to prevent binding during the punching  
19 operation and having a needle-like projection adapted to spear said preperforated areas of  
20 said card.

21 23. A punch-card device according to claim 1 wherein a rectangular open-top box  
22 is snapped onto the underside of said device beneath said die, adapted to catch all chads  
23 punched out of said card.

1            ~~24~~     A punch-card device according to claim 1 wherein a small portion of the  
2     illumination from said light source is made visible to the user of said device, to signal  
3     that said device is ready for voting.

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